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SOURCE Alik.INDICATIONS OF PRO-USSR POLICY BY MOSSADEQ

A review of news articles and quotations from the foreign press appearing in the Tehran daily newspaper, Alik between 5 November and 19 November 1952 seems to indicate a trend toward closer relations between Iran and the USSR. Below is a summary of the pertinent points of these articles.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.<sup>7</sup>

After cautioning that the information was unofficial and was to be regarded with reservation, Alik reported on 14 November 1952 that political circles in Tehran were seriously considering the possibility of establishing closer relations between Iran and the USSR to alleviate the economic situation of the country by industrial and financial agreements. This, Alik pointed out, was due to Iran's disappointment with the US.

According to rumors, Alik stated, the expansion of US activities in Iran has been giving great concern to the USSR. The USSR therefore, has expressed willingness to yield to any demands from Iran, provided Iran blocks US activities in that country (Iran) and does not participate in MEDO.<sup>(1)</sup> On 19 November, 1952 Alik reported that, according to the French-language newspaper Republique, published in Istanbul, the USSR has been so afraid that Iran may change its politically neutral position in favor of the US that it was even ready to turn over to Iran the 20 million dollars' worth of gold Iranian gold held in the Gosbank (State Bank) of Moscow/ to prevent Iran's acceptance of financial aid from the US.<sup>(2)</sup>

On 5 November 1952, Alik reported the following taken from Nouvelle Revue a daily newspaper published in Lausanne: "Mossadeq has signed a secret agreement with the USSR whereby he has promised to adopt a policy which will gradually and quietly lead Iran into the Communist orbit. It was as a result of this agreement, reached during the bloody incident of 21 July 1952, that the Tudeh Party successfully struggled to place Mossadeq in power again. Since

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then, Mossadeq has been taking definite steps in favor of the USSR. His activities of the past 3 months have widened the gap between Iran and the West. He has severed relations with Great Britain already, and the next step in his plans is to oust US advisers and break relations with the US. Then, the secret plots will be revealed and the iron curtain will extend all the way to the Persian gulf."

Alik, on 5 November 1952, quoting Cumhuriyet, Turkish daily newspaper published in Istanbul, stated that Dr Mossadeq, by taking the Iranian Army under his control, by purging the palace personnel, and finally, by the steps he has been taking to liquidate the senate, was proved to be actively cooperating with the Communists.(3)

On 14 November 1952, Alik also reported that there were rumors claiming that Iran and the USSR had signed a secret mutual nonaggression pact.(1)

SOURCES

1. Alik, 14 Nov 52
2. Alik, 19 Nov 52
3. Alik, 5 Nov 52

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